

The graduate literature program at Rutgers-Newark is unique in the region for offering a general English M.A. degree with courses taught by distinguished research scholars and writers who love to teach. A tapestry of ethnicities and nationalities, intimate for its compact size and friendly atmosphere, in sight on the Manhattan skyline, round the corner from the Newark Museum and minutes from Newark's Penn Station (and PATH), the campus is not like anywhere else on the Rutgers map. We invite you to come and see for yourself what we're about.

Each November and April, the Graduate School hosts an Open House, where you can explore your options in advanced learning, tour the campus, and meet us. Please write if you'd like to be put on our invitation list, or if you would like to set up another date for an on-campus visit to meet with the Program Director.

Applications are submitted online by going to <http://gradstudy.rutgers.edu> and clicking on Newark. Everything else is sent to Graduate Admissions (Rutgers University, 249 University Avenue, Blumenthal Hall Room 100, Newark, NJ 07102). Some tips for our process:

\*We suggest you write a **Personal Statement** in a natural manner that tells us something of who you are, what you'd like to study in our graduate program and why, and what experience you have, including academic research and writing, that makes you a good candidate for admission. Tell us too where you think your studies might take you after graduation. You may also want to communicate your personal flavor by commenting on writers or styles you admire (or don't) and fields of study under the generous umbrella of "English" that interest you. If there's anything in your academic record that needs explaining, you can do that in the Statement or ask your recommenders to address it.

\***Resumes** can give the big picture but do tend to be telegraphic. If you send one, be sure that you or your recommenders elaborate on items in it that make you stand out. We have no problem reading a resume that's two pages long.

\***Recommendation letters** can come from employers and supervisors, although it helps to have at least one who can speak in detail to your knowledge of literature and literary research and your style as a student. (Recommenders often appreciate having in front of them your transcript, Personal Statement, and –for former professors-reminders of the work you did in their classes.)

\*The Graduate School requires **GRE scores** (Verbal, Math, Analytical Writing—but not the Subject Test). How the scores are considered in the application is largely up to the individual program. Instead of applying a cut-off number, we look at the candidate holistically, weighing all the applicant's material together. "Old" GRE scores are often acceptable to the Graduate School so long as you submit an original report. Applicants taking the GRE for the first time are wise to prepare for it.

\*We ask all applicants to send an **academic writing sample** showing their skills in literary analysis and research. Some who've been out of school for a good while or no longer have such papers enjoy writing fresh sample on a book or writer they like. Others generate their writing sample by taking a non-degree course here first; the professor may also be able to supply a recommendation letter for the application.